

Chapter 1

INTRODUCTION

Para.	Title	Page
1.1.	Purpose.....	1-1
1.2.	Sources of Information.....	1-1

1.1. Purpose.

1.1.1. This manual establishes procedures and assigns responsibilities for the acquisition, modification and installation of Mechanized Materials Handling Systems (MMHS) and Storage Aids Systems (SAS). MMHS and SAS have a major impact on the capability of base and depot functions throughout the Air Force. Systems in use increase productivity and the utilization of warehouse space. They improve mission capability, enhance safety, and improve job satisfaction for the system operators. This manual establishes procedures and guidelines necessary to develop and apply rapid advances in MMHS and SAS technology throughout the Air Force. It outlines program objectives for planning new and modernizing existing facilities using the latest technologies available. It applies to AF personnel active in identification, justification, specification, acquisition, installation, use, and maintenance of these systems. It does not apply to any Air Force Materiel Command (AFMC) Depot Maintenance Service, Air Force Industrial Fund (DMS/AFIF) systems. For policy and procedures which apply to the DMS/AFIF, see AFR 170-10.

1.2. Sources Of Information.

1.2.1. AFMC Project Engineers. The primary source of MMHS and SAS information is from the AFMC Project Engineers. Upon request, and on an as-available basis, an engineer will travel to the requester's base. The engineer will work with the requester to determine the needs of the base. This is an Evaluation Visit. At the request of a Major Command (MAJCOM), AFMC Project Engineers may participate in conferences to discuss MMHS/SAS. Prospective Base Project Officers (BPO) should visit AFMC to discuss projects and review technical manuals, manufacturer's brochures, design handbooks, and system layouts in use at other installations.

1.2.2. Reference Materials. The Department of the Navy, Naval Supply Systems Command, NAVSUP Publication 529 is an excellent source of information.

1.2.3. Private Industry. Manufacturers of MMHS and SAS will furnish information. Sales representatives from local firms may be willing to survey operations and recommend various types of systems and equipment. If the BPO has already made a preliminary "generic" equipment selection, these firms may also be helpful for cost estimating information. When using commercial sources, it is advisable to seek several unrelated firms so the BPO does not get biased information. Coordination with the local operational contracting office is mandatory to be sure the Government is not inadvertently committed to pay for the contractor's services.

1.2.4. MAJCOM Program Manager. Another potential source of information is the MAJCOM Program Manager who is knowledgeable in the various types of equipment available. This individual manages all the projects within the command and participates in the design of these systems.

1.2.5. Central MMHS/SAS Library. AFMC maintains a central library of MMHS and SAS technical information. It contains lessons learned based upon experience gained in man-aging the MMHS/SAS program and from information submitted by MAJCOMs. It is essential that MAJCOMs and Air Logistics Centers submit information (lessons learned) to update this file. Post Acceptance Summaries are good examples of lessons learned information (see Chapter 5, Attachments 5A5 and 5A6). MAJCOM Program Managers and BPOs are

encouraged to review this information when planning an MMHS or SAS.